



Atty. Dkt. No. 045054-0159

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Ko KIMURA et al.  
Title: ATM BRIDGE DEVICE AND METHOD FOR DETECTING LOOP  
IN ATM BRIDGE TRANSMISSION  
Appl. No.: 10/822,668  
Filing Date: 04/13/2004  
Examiner: Haliyur, Venkatesh N.  
Art Unit: 2619  
Confirmation Number: 2870

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 CFR §1.56**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56.

A copy of each non-U.S. patent document and each non-patent document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

**TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE**

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(c), before the mailing date of either a final action under 37 CFR §1.113, a notice of allowance under 37 CFR §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.

**RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT**

The documents listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 were cited as being relevant during the prosecution of the corresponding Japanese application. A partial English translation of the Japanese Office Action of January 8, 2008, follows:

Note (see reference list for cited references)

Claims 1-18

Cited references 1 and 2

Remarks

Cited reference 1 discloses the ATM bridge apparatus which conduct a loop detecting method while MAC frame source mailing address is being verified, and then discards MAC frame when loop formation is acknowledged (see cited reference 1 paragraph 0028).

Also, cited reference 2 discloses the data rely device technology which judges whether originator interchange interface (input transmission path as in current application) or forwarding destination interchange interface (output transmission path as in current application) of received specific data correspond and stops the sending process of specific data when said interfaces are judged as a match (see cited reference 2 paragraph 0009).

It is obvious that one of ordinary skill of art can invent technologies said in claims 1-18 in current application applying technology in cited reference 2 including loop technology in cited reference 1.

Cited reference list

Japanese patent publication H07-202908

Japanese patent publication H10-70564

Document A1 is a U.S. counterpart of Document A3.

Any document listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 was cited as being relevant during the prosecution of the corresponding Japanese application. An English translation of the foreign-language documents is not readily available; however, the absence of a translation or an English-language counterpart document does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider any submitted document (37 CFR §1.98 and MPEP §609). English language abstracts are attached.

Applicants respectfully request that each listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

**STATEMENT**

The undersigned hereby states in accordance with 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1) that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to filing of this Statement.

Applicant's statements regarding the Japanese office action are based on a translation that applicant's representative obtained. These statements should in no way be considered as an agreement by applicants, with or an admission of, what is asserted in the Japanese office action.

Although Applicant believes that no fee is required for this Request, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for this Request to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: April 8, 2008

By  \_\_\_\_\_

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